

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2025**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 31

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE COUNTYWIDE FOOD CONTRACT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On December 5, 2023 (26), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted Board Policy B-75, County of San Diego Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Policy. Board Policy B-75 outlines six value categories to guide the County of San Diego's (County) food procurement process: local sourcing, equity-informed sourcing, elevated labor standards, organic or regenerative certification, low-carbon intensity, and nutritional co-benefit.

On March 12, 2024 (9), the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to issue a competitive solicitation for a Countywide food contract; require tracking of Board Policy B-75 values; return to the Board; and develop an action plan to support local businesses.

Today's action requests that the Board receive an update on the countywide food contract with Sysco Foods (Sysco) effected as of September 2024 and the progress made in implementing Board Policy B-75. This update summarizes progress under the Sysco contract, primarily used by the San Diego Sheriff's Office (SDSO) and Edgemoor Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facility (DPSNF), and outlines efforts to implement Board Policy B-75.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Receive an update on the Countywide Food Contract and progress in implementing Board Policy B-75.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The County serves millions of meals each year to some of the most vulnerable individuals in the region. The Countywide food contract supports Board Policy B-75 by ensuring food procurement benefits local food producers, workers, and businesses owned and/or operated by underserved communities. Sysco, the County's food distributor, has begun incorporating equity-informed sourcing and elevated labor standards into its supplier engagement, with staff working to build the systems needed to measure progress. Partnerships with local organizations such as the San Diego Food Hub and Freshpoint have been launched to connect equity-focused growers and food businesses into the procurement pipeline.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

This action supports the County's Sustainability Goals by strengthening local economies, reducing the carbon footprint of food purchases, and increasing access to nutritious and sustainable food. Recent dietary procurement shifts of more poultry and less red meat have improved delivery of both nutritional and environmental outcomes. Progress in sourcing certified organic and regenerative products also supports the County's goals to reduce pollution, promote environmental justice, and protect community health. For example, Sysco, working with the San Diego Food Hub has expanded access to regional farms to supply regenerative and organic products.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

The Countywide Food Contract requires Sysco to include local suppliers in its catalog. Pilot efforts, such as integrating strawberries from a local producer, show how regional farms and businesses can be integrated into large-scale food operations. Engagements with the San Diego Food Hub and Freshpoint, Sysco's specialty produce farm, continue to expand the pipeline of small, local growers. Through collaboration with the San Diego Food Hub, Sysco is connecting small farms and producers, offering new market opportunities for businesses historically excluded from contracts of this scale.

ACTION:

Noting for the record that this item was heard on December 10, 2025; ON MOTION of Supervisor Lawson-Remer, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Received an update on the Countywide Food Contract and progress in implementing Board Policy B-75.
2. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to return to the Board in 90 days with a report on:
 - a. Progress and a continued plan for technical assistance and stakeholder engagement, including outreach to the Farm Bureau and local farms.
 - b. Assessment of barriers to local procurement, including packaging requirements and other constraints.
 - c. Ambitious but achievable goals for the six value categories for the coming year.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

